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(b) whether it is a fact that appeals are pending in the High Court of Madras between the Parlakimedi estate and certain ryots regarding the right of the estate to levy water-cess and to enhance the rent ; and

(c) what action the Government propose to take on the above petitions ?

A.—(a) The Government have received seven petitions. They understand that the Board of Revenue has received a number also.

(b) Yes.

(c) No decision has as yet been arrived at.

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" In view of the answer given to clause (b) of this question, viz., 'that appeals are pending in the High Court of Madras between the Parlakimedi estate and certain ryots regarding the right of the estate to levy water-cess and to enhance the rent', will the Government be pleased to put off the settlement operations and the preparation of a record of rights till those suits are decided."

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" I would refer the hon. Member to the answer given in clause (c). The matter is under consideration."

Introduction of the Malabar Tenancy Bill.

*210 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce a Malabar Tenancy Bill ;

(b) if so, on what lines ; and

(c) when ?

A.—(a), (b) & (c) The matter is under the consideration of Government with reference to the recent report and draft Bill prepared by the Malabar Tenancy Committee.

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I have, Sir, a little more definite information as to the exact stage at which the matter stands at present ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" The exact stage is that the report and the draft Bill and a summary of the recommendation of the Committee were translated in Malayalam and published in the papers. The Government have not come to any conclusions on the report."

Minor Irrigation

Supply of water to the Kaveripauk tank.

*211 Q.—Mr. T. ADINARAYANA CHETTIYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) what were the original depth and the dimensions of the Kaveripauk tank and what are its present depth and dimensions ;

(b) when the tank was full for the last time and how many villages are being irrigated by the tank ;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Kaveripauk tank gets its water from the Palar river and that the Palar river has become dry for the last 23 years, and if so, what the reasons are for the same ;